

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD SUMMARY

Monday, April 15, 2002

SENATE

Measures Introduced:

S. 2127. A bill for the relief of the Pottawatomi Nation in Canada for settlement of certain claims against the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Inouye

Page S 2675

S. 2128. *A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 600 West Capitol Avenue in Little Rock, Arkansas, as the "Richard S. Arnold United States Courthouse;" to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.*

"...Judge Richard Arnold has served his country and the judiciary with rare distinction first at the District Court level and more recently as Chief Judge for the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Arnold was appointed by President Carter in October 1978 to the District Bench for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas and was elevated to the Court of Appeals in 1980. Judge Arnold took senior status in April, 2001 after he turned 65. While serving as a member of the Federal judiciary, Judge Arnold has earned a national reputation as a brilliant, fair and effective judge. In 1999, Judge Arnold was the winner of the highly prestigious Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award..."

Lincoln

Pages S 2675, S 2678

S. J. Res. 35. *A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims; to the Committee on the Judiciary.*

"...Currently, while criminal defendants have almost two dozen separate constitutional rights--fifteen of them provided by amendments to the U.S. Constitution--there is not a single word in the Constitution about crime victims. These rights trump the statutory and state constitutional rights of crime victims because the U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land. To level the playing field, crime victims need rights in the U.S. Constitution. [] It is a little known fact that at the time the Constitution was drafted, it was standard practice for victims--not public prosecutors--to prosecute criminal cases. Because victims were parties to most criminal cases, they enjoyed the basic rights to notice, to be present, and be heard. Hence, it is not surprising that the Constitution does not mention victims. Now, of course, it is extremely rare for a victim to undertake a criminal prosecution..."

Feinstein

Page S 2675, S 2679-81

Measures Reported:

S. 928, *to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to require, as a condition of receipt or use of Federal financial assistance, that States waive immunity to suit for certain violations of that Act, and to affirm the availability of certain suits for injunctive relief to ensure compliance with that Act.* (S. Rept. No. 107-142)

Pages S 2675, D 331

H.R. 169, *to require that Federal agencies be accountable for violations of anti-discrimination and whistleblower protection laws, with amendments.* (S. Rept. No. 107-143)

Pages S 2675, D 331

H.R. 3525 - U.S. Border Security:

Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 3525, to enhance the border security of the United States, taking action on amendment proposed thereto.

Pages S 2643-59, D 331

"...The only people I am aware of who spoke on the legislation on Friday were the four cosponsors: Senators Kennedy, Brownback, Feinstein, and myself. We all laid out the case, to one degree or another, for the legislation and urged our colleagues who may have something to say about it to come to the floor and express themselves. Indeed, if there were amendments, we would be happy to entertain those amendments. We are obviously hopeful there will not be, so we can simply adopt the legislation approved by the House and we can send it to the President for his signature. Why is this our goal? Each week that goes by without this legislation being in place represents an opportunity for a terrorist to gain entry into the United States. We have to close the loopholes..." (Kyl, Page S 2642)

S. 517 - Energy Policy Act--Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of S. 517, to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, April 16, 2002.

Pages S 2688, D 331

Nominations Confirmed:

Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 68), Terrence L. O'Brien, of Wyoming, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Pages S 2661-64, S 2688, D 331

"... It is not possible to repair the damage caused by longstanding vacancies in several circuits overnight, but we are improving the conditions in the 5th, 10th and 8th Circuit, in particular. Judge O'Brien will be the second judge confirmed to the 10th Circuit in the last 4 months. With today's vote on Judge O'Brien, in a little more than 9 months since the change in majority, the Senate has confirmed eight judges to the Courts of Appeals and held hearings on three others. In contrast, the Republican-controlled majority averaged only seven confirmations to the Courts of Appeal per year. Seven. In the last 9 months, the Senate has now confirmed as many Court of Appeals judges as were confirmed in all of 2000 and more than were confirmed in all of 1997 or 1999. It is eight more than the zero confirmed in all of 1996..." (Leahy, Pages S 2661-63)

Nominations Received:

Senate received the following nomination:

Marcos D. Jimenez, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Pages S 2688, D 331

Committee Meetings for Tuesday, April 16, 2002:

Committee on Appropriations: @ 10:30 a.m. Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings to examine aviation safety and capacity issues. SD-138.

Page D 332

Committee Meetings for Tuesday, April 16, 2002 (Cont'd):

Committee on Foreign Relations: @ 2:30 p.m. Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Narcotics Affairs, to hold hearings *to examine U.S. Mexican relations*. SD-419. *[Possible security issues.]*

Committee on Governmental Affairs: @ 10 a.m. Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine problems relating to the availability and use of fake or fraudulently issued driver's licenses, focusing on what state and federal governments can do to improve the system. SD-342.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: @ 10 a.m. *To hold oversight hearings to examine medical privacy issues.* SH- 216.

Committee on the Judiciary: @ 10:15 a.m. Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice. SD-226.

Page D 332

Remark:

_____Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act.

Kennedy

Pages S 2643-44

HOUSE

Committee Meetings for Tuesday, April 16, 2002:

Committee on Financial Services: @ 2:00 p.m. To continue markup of **H.R. 3763**, *Corporate and Auditing Accountability, Responsibility, and Transparency Act of 2002*. 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform: @ 2 p.m. Subcommittee on National Security, Veterans' Affairs and International Relations, hearing on Combating Terrorism: *Axis of Evil, Multilateral Containment or Unilateral Confrontation?* 2154 Rayburn.

Page D 332

Committee on Rules: @ 5:00 p.m. To consider **H.R. 476**, *Child Custody Protection Act*. H-313 Capitol.

Page D 333

Remarks:

Supporting Victims of Domestic Violence.

Rangel

Page E 525

H.R. 2715. Born-Alive Infants Protection Act.

"...The right in our society to terminate a human life is a grave threat to human principles. It is the most vulnerable members of our society, our newborn children, who fall victim to this fundamental legitimatization of infanticide. I believe all children should be welcome and protected under the law..."

Graves

Page E 526

Next SENATE MEETING: Tuesday, 11:00 a.m., April 16, 2002.

Next HOUSE MEETING: Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., April 16, 2002.

OLA: S. Schwarz, A. Santos